

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Original) A medical guide wire which comprises a guide wire body to be passed through a channel of an endoscope, the guide wire body serving to guide an appliance to be inserted into the human body in an insertion operation, the medical guide wire comprising:

a fixing portion formed of a substantially wire-shaped retainer having one end coupled to the distal end portion side of said guide wire body and the other end extending to the proximal end portion side of said guide wire body and used to fix the position of said medical guide wire by means of said retainer lest the position of said medical guide wire relative to said endoscope change.

2. (Original) A medical guide wire according to claim 1, wherein said retainer is formed of a retaining wire of a resin, a metal, or a metal coated with a resin having a stiffness high enough not to be intertwined with said guide wire.

3. (Original) A medical guide wire which comprises a guide wire body to be passed through a channel of an endoscope, the guide wire body serving to guide an appliance to be inserted into the human body in an insertion operation, the medical guide wire comprising:

a retaining wire located parallel to said guide wire body, one end of the retaining wire being connected to the distal end of said guide wire body or a portion near the distal end and the other end extending close to the hand-side end of said guide wire body.

4. (Original) A medical guide wire according to claim 3, wherein said retaining wire has a separable junction with said guide wire body.

5. (Original) A medical guide wire according to claim 4, wherein said guide wire body is provided with a soft coupling member of an elastic material formed on the distal end portion thereof, the distal end portion of said retaining wire being removably coupled to the coupling member.

6. (Original) A medical guide wire according to claim 3, wherein the respective sectional shapes of said guide wire body and said retaining wire form a substantially circular shape when the sectional shapes are joined together as the two are arranged side by side.

7. (Original) A medical guide wire according to claim 6, wherein said retaining wire is an arcuate wire having a substantially crescent sectional shape.

8. (Original) A medical guide wire according to claim 3, wherein said guide wire body and the retaining wire are provided with insulating coating layers, individually.

9. (Original) A medical guide wire according to claim 3, wherein said retaining wire is a ribbon-shaped wire having a substantially flat sectional shape.

10. (Original) A medical guide wire according to claim 3, wherein the proximal end portion of said retaining wire is provided with a retaining portion having a diameter larger than that of any other portion.

11. (Original) A medical guide wire according to claim 3, wherein the proximal end portion of said retaining wire is held by means of a wire fixing portion attached to said endoscope.

12. (Original) A medical guide wire according to claim 3, wherein the proximal end portion of said retaining wire is held by means of a wire fixing portion attached to an operating section of said endoscope.

13. (Original) A medical guide wire according to claim 3, wherein the length of said retaining wire is adjusted to 1,000 mm to 2,000 mm.

14. (Original) A medical guide wire according to claim 3, wherein the length of said guide wire body is adjusted to 3,500 mm or less.

15. (Original) An endoscope using a medical guide wire, comprising:
an endoscope body having an appliance passage channel;
a guide wire body to be passed through said channel, the guide wire body serving to guide an appliance to be inserted into the human body in an insertion operation;
and
a retaining wire located parallel to said guide wire body, one end of the retaining wire being connected to the distal end of said guide wire body or a portion near the distal end and the other end extending close to the hand-side end of said guide wire body,
said endoscope body having a wire fixing portion for holding the proximal end portion of said retaining wire.

16. (Original) An endoscope according to claim 15, wherein said wire fixing portion is located on an operating section of said endoscope body.

Claims 17-53 (Cancelled)